



**OPEN CONSULTATIONS ON THE PARTICIPATION OF RELEVANT
STAKEHOLDERS IN THE ACTIVITIES OF ITU RELATED TO WSIS**

QUESTIONNAIRE TO ITU WSIS ACCREDITED ENTITIES

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a) What “added value” might stakeholders (that are not members of the ITU) bring to the work of ITU in its WSIS-related activities?

Stakeholders' attendance of ITU activities related to WSIS could further increase ITU's popularity and influence, as well as general public's awareness of ITU's work.

b) What criteria could be suggested for defining which stakeholders (that are not members of the ITU) might be “relevant” to participated in ITU activities related to WSIS, taking into account a) above ?

1. NGOs that enjoy consultative status or have formal relationship with UN ECOSOC and some other UN organizations and agencies can be “relevant”?
2. NGOs that have special competency in one or two ITU's working areas can be “relevant”?

c) What are the challenges (including financial) to stakeholders (that are not members of the ITU) posed by their participation in the activities of the Union related to WSIS, and how can such challenges be met ?

According to the statistics from some governments and academic institutions, there are about 40,000 NGOs operating internationally, over 2 million NGOs in the US, 277,000 in Russia, 1-2 million in India, 360,000 in China, more than 1 million in France, over 800,000 in Germany, and 100,000 in South Africa. The total number of NGOs worldwide would be an overwhelming number. Therefore, if the ITU activities related to WSIS were open to all, with the experience of some NGO Forums in mind, ITU may turn into an occasion for diversified talks, and its efficiency will be greatly reduced.

To meet such a challenge, it's necessary to limit the attendance of NGOs in ITU activities related to WSIS.

- d) **How can existing mechanisms (e.g. partnerships, symposia, seminars, workshops, focus groups, policy forums, experts) for participation by stakeholders (that are not members of the ITU) be used more effectively, and what other mechanisms could be suggested ?**

Civil society events parallel to the existing mechanisms could be a solution. Moreover, ITU could establish an NGO Liaison Office or consider offering NGOs consultative status to encourage those relevant NGOs to take part in ITU activities related to WSIS.

- e) **What specific efforts may be needed to mobilize and ensure the meaningful and effective participation of all relevant stakeholders (that are not members of the ITU) from developing countries, and stakeholders in the development field?**

ITU could demand stakeholders from the developed countries to pay more for attending the ITU activities related to WSIS, so as to decrease or cover the rate to be paid by stakeholders from developing countries, especially those from least developed countries.

Stakeholders in the development field could be considered to be sector members or associates of ITU.